

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
13 October 2005 (13.10.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2005/095286 A1**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: C02F 1/56, 11/14

(21) International Application Number:  
PCT/EP2005/002077

(22) International Filing Date: 28 February 2005 (28.02.2005)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
0405504.2 12 March 2004 (12.03.2004) GB

(74) Common Representative: CIBA SPECIALTY CHEMICALS WATER TREATMENTS LIMITED; Patents Department, Cleckheaton Road, Low Moor, Bradford, West Yorkshire BD12 0JZ (GB).

(81) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

**Published:**  
— with international search report

*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

(71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): CIBA SPECIALTY CHEMICALS WATER TREATMENTS LIMITED [GB/GB]; Cleckheaton Road, Low Moor, Bradford, West Yorkshire BD12 0JZ (GB).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): WHITTAKER, Tony [GB/GB]; 11 Petrel Close, Clayton Heights, Bradford, West Yorkshire BD6 3YB (GB). NORMAN, Peter [GB/GB]; 35 Lumb Lane, Robertton, Liversedge, West Yorkshire WF15 7NQ (GB). SMITH, Darryl [GB/GB]; 25 Becketts Close, Heptonstall, Hebden Bridge, West Yorkshire HX7 7LJ (GB).

(54) Title: DEWATERING PROCESS

(57) Abstract: A process of dewatering an aqueous suspension employing a flocculating system comprising treating the suspension with a flocculating amount of a first flocculant and a dewatering amount of a second flocculant, and subjecting the suspension to mechanical dewatering to form a cake, wherein the first flocculant brings about flocculation and assists thickening of the suspension and the second flocculant further dewateres the suspension, characterised in that the second flocculant is a water-soluble or water swellable polymer that is mixed into the suspension in the form of aqueous composition comprising dissolved or hydrated polymer having a Brookfield viscosity of above 30,000 cps (measured at 20°C).



WO 2005/095286 A1